



THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 16, 1958

# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Eban, Dag to Confer On Syrian Attacks

Jerusalem Post Political Correspondent

The renowned acts of Syrian aggression are believed to be one of the topics to be brought up when Ambassador Abba Eban meets U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, probably on Thursday (today).

### Victims Relate How They Were Seized

By DAVID SLAV  
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The meeting had been arranged to deal with the results of Mr. Hammarskjöld's recent visits to Amman, Riad and Cairo which followed his talk in Jerusalem and Sid Boher.

Although no report has yet been received by Israel on the guarantees of Mr. Hammarskjöld received from the U.A.R. for the maintenance of tranquillity on the Israeli-Syrian border, Tuesday's incidents—the kidnapping of two hikers 400 metres inside Israeli territory and the shooting at fishermen on Lake Kinneret, are considered in Jerusalem as further proof of Syria's reluctance to put a stop to its continuous provocations.

The latest incidents are viewed with grave concern in Jerusalem, particularly as it is only a week since Mr. Hammarskjöld left.

Meeting U.N.T.S.O. Chief of Staff, Col. Robert Rickett, is to tour the north-east frontier today. Although Col. Rickett's trip north was described by the U.N. spokesman as a "routine visit," it is assumed that Tuesday's incidents lend it special significance.

### Safety Measures

It will be recalled that the joint communiqué issued after the Sde Boker meeting between Mr. Ben-Gurion and Mr. Hammarskjöld said that "measures for assuring safety and tranquillity in the Israeli-Syrian border area" were discussed.

With regard to the kidnapping, Reuter reports that the Syrian Army spokesman claimed that "two Israelis had entered Shamaim village in the demilitarized zone and had opened fire to steal a flock of sheep. They were arrested and handed over to U.N. Observers to be returned to Israel."

UPI reports from Cairo that the Egypt-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission, meeting in the absence of Israel, found that "six Israeli jets came into U.A.R. air space" last Thursday.

### New Oil Port For Syria Planned

DAMASCUS (Reuter).—The Chairman of the Syrian Executive Council Nur e-Din Kabah told a press conference here on Wednesday that the U.A.R. will shortly have another harbour on the Mediterranean with an oil terminal carrying Syrian oil.

The recently-formed public oil institution is to resume collecting for oil in the Karsitash region in north Syria where all had been struck by the Meshaleh Company last year. The oil reserve there has been estimated at up to 150 million tons.

As soon as possible Karashuk will be linked by pipeline to the projected new harbour at Tartus Kamhaleh added.

### U.A.R. STUDENTS MUST HAVE ARMY SERVICE

U.A.R. students of 22 years or more will not be admitted to state institutions of higher learning unless they furnish documentary evidence that they had served in the armed forces, according to Cairo Radio on Wednesday, which announced a presidential decree to this effect.

### URUGUAY BUYS RUSSIAN OIL

MONTVEVIDEO (UPI).—The Uruguayan Government has bought 300,000 cubic metres (1,865,940 barrels) of Russian crude oil for \$6m. delivered here, it was announced on Wednesday.

Additional purchases of fuel oil, gas oil and kerosene for a total value of \$3.5m. are being negotiated with Russia.

With deep sorrow we announce the untimely death of our dear husband and brother

**Marcel Fishman**

The funeral will leave the Assuta Hospital at 2.30 p.m. today, January 16, 1958.

The bereaved  
Wife, Brother and Sisters

With deep sorrow we announce the untimely death of our dear manager

**MARCEL FISHMAN**

PRIMAN LTD.

### Toledano Offers New Proposals On Registration

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Children of mixed marriages should be registered on the identity card of the mother only, according to new proposals prepared by the Minister for Religious Affairs, Rabbi Y.M. Toledano. The Jerusalem Post learned from the Minister's office on Wednesday.

At present, all children are normally registered on the father's card. Rabbi Toledano's proposal aims to solve the dispute over "Who is a Jew" for registration purposes. He proposes that any adult who declares in good faith that he is Jewish and that his parents were Jewish is to be registered as a Jew. Now an adult is required to declare his own religious status only.

The principal in the Anglo-Egyptian talks will be a formal meeting on Thursday following their consultations on Wednesday, according to the chief British delegate, Sir Denis Rickett.

Mr. Crowe of the British Foreign Office would stay in Cairo to have talks on this subject. "Al Ahram" said.

The U.S. he declared, would like to make any material move to assure the Soviet Union that there was no danger from the German people.

He said at a luncheon at the National Press Club that to neutralize and completely disarm Germany was the tenor of Soviet proposals, and the U.S. opposed that concept.

The U.S. he declared, would like to make any material move to assure the Soviet Union that there was no danger from the German people.

He added that although Communist and non-Communist concepts of world order differed, there could be no useful contacts and negotiations with the Communists.

He said: "We are glad that the First Deputy Premier of the Soviet Union, Mr. Mikoyan, is now more learning about our country."

Mr. Dulles is due to confer with Mr. Mikoyan on Friday, and the Soviet Foreign Minister will meet President Eisenhower the following day.

Mr. Dulles also said that the U.S. was still trying to make up for the head start of the Soviet Union in its space achievements. He said that American "space" accomplishments during the last year "justify the belief that we are making good active progress."

All indications are that a signature is imminent. Wednesday's talks followed a series of private meetings between Mr. Eugene Black, who mediated in preliminary negotiations but is not taking part in the full-scale talks, conferred with the leaders of both delegations.

Mr. Black, who has postponed his departure for London from Thursday to Friday, had his third meeting in 24 hours with Sir Denis, and later met Dr. Kaisumy, Minister of Economy, who is heading the Egyptian side.

Rabbinate Consulted

It is understood that prior to the formulation of Rabbi Toledano's proposals, consultations took place between the Ministry and the Chief Rabbinate.

Under Jewish law, a child has the religion of its father. When Toledano's proposal to register children of mixed marriages on the mother's identity card is thought to be acceptable to all religious circles. The proposed change in the registration of adults would provide for the accurate registration of the mothers involved.

Although the new proposal aims at the registration of how children of mixed marriages, where the mother is a Gentile, may be registered as an adult, it is understood that this can be achieved only by their conversion to Judaism (b'nachah).

Mr. Bar-Yehuda's directives on registration which were approved by the Cabinet in June and confirmed in November, provided that where both parents declare their child to be Jewish, he will be registered as such, even though one of the parents is not Jewish.

The spokesman added that the visit closely follows that of Premier Fanfani of Italy, who has postponed his departure for London from Thursday to Friday, had his third meeting in 24 hours with Sir Denis, and later met Dr. Kaisumy, Minister of Economy, who is heading the Egyptian side.

**Money, Papers Stolen**

But before they could do so, Sammy Coppola and his son, who were taken prisoner by three workers and two soldiers. The workers robbed him of a purse containing ILR and private papers, which they refused to return despite his repeated requests.

Their captors forced them to travel 100 miles, which is about as far as they can go.

Coppola, who speaks fluent Hebrew, comes from Chicago. His mother lives in Jerusalem. He said that the Syrians had treated them well except that they gave them no food during their seven hours of captivity.

Seven times the young men believed their end had come to take to the U.S. Embassy in Damascus or to be returned to Israel. "Of course we asked to return, but we didn't believe them until the last moment."

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**BUDGET ESTIMATES TO BE RAISED**

By AMOS MELAMEDE, Jerusalem Post Reporter

There is little doubt that the 1958-59 draft budget which was tabled in the Knesset a fortnight ago will have to be substantially increased even before it passes.

The urgent need for more funds arose as a result of the mass immigration arriving this year were confirmed. The ILR 326.5m. draft budget was drawn up on the assumption of 100,000 immigrants from abroad. This calculation has been drastically changed with the figure running as high as 20,000 and 30,000.

The two most urgent needs will be to provide more money for housing and to work out the additional expenditures involved in providing the newcomers with the normal public services, such as those for health and education.

**Some from Ahroun**

Treasury officials estimate that some of the extra funds will come from abroad, and Mr. Eshkol, Minister of Finance, who is now in the U.S., will press for an increased share of the welfare funds collected in that country being directed to Israel. He will address a special meeting of Jewish communities leaders here all day on the U.S. on January 18 in New York.

Mr. Eshkol is expected back in Israel on January 22 or 23 when the Treasury will have a clearer picture of the possibility of raising additional funds abroad. Then, the amount of money that Israel will be called upon to provide will be assessed and the new budget drawn up.

The present budget is already well cropped on the expenditure side, Treasury officials maintain, and any additional funds will have to come from new sources.

### Housing for 5,000 Refugees in Iraq

The Iraqi Government has begun the construction of a popular housing scheme for 5,000 Palestine Arab refugees in the country, the Arab News Agency reported from Baghdad.

The first stage of the plan, for which 100,000 have been allocated, will contain 300 units.

**UK, UAR to Discuss Diplomatic Ties**

CAIRO (Reuter).—The authoritative newspaper "Al Ahram" said on Wednesday it immediately signed an Anglo-Egyptian financial agreement is announced, Britain would need a remittance of diplomatic relations from the two countries to facilitate its implementation.

Mr. Crowe of the British Foreign Office would stay in Cairo to have talks on this subject. "Al Ahram" said.

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### Cannot Demilitarize Strong German Nation, Ike Says

WASHINGTON (Reuter).—President Eisenhower said on Wednesday it was "an exercise in futility" to try to demilitarize and neutralize a people as strong as the German people.

He said at a luncheon at the National Press Club that to neutralize and completely disarm Germany was the tenor of Soviet proposals, and the U.S. opposed that concept.

The U.S. he declared, would like to make any material move to assure the Soviet Union that there was no danger from the German people.

He added that although Communist and non-Communist concepts of world order differed, this did not mean there could not be useful contacts and negotiations with the Communists.

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**Today's Postbags****The Weather**

**FORECAST:** Generally partly cloudy with occasional rain especially in the North.

**Weather Synopsis:** A low pressure centre extends over Southwest Turkey and a weak cold front from Cyprus to the Egyptian Delta.

	A	B	C	D
Mr. Canaan	64	14	12	
Tiberias	55	22	21	20
Hifa's Port	55	22	21	19
Haifa	55	22	20	19
Tel Aviv-Kirya	72	10	18	18
Tel Aviv Port	70	11	19	18
Lod-Haifa	71	5	30	28
Jerusalem	72	10	18	18
Gaza	55	5	18	18
Beer-Sheva	55	10	25	20
Eilat	55	10	25	20

\* \* \* \* \* **SUMMARY:** On a.m. (U.S.) Monday, January 14, 1958, the Bank of Israel reported today.

**CURRENCY:** In circulation rose by IL.350,461 during the week ending Tuesday to stand at IL.200,221. The Bank of Israel reports. Remittances of exchange increased by IL.117,565 and gold reserves by IL.14; foreign currency reserves declined by IL.187,118.

**PROF. EL. DINUAR** has agreed to continue to serve as chairman of Yod VaShem until April 1, at the request of the Minister of Education. He had recently resigned from the post.

**A BRANCH** of the Association of Americans and Canadians has been opened in Beer-Sheva with 15 families and five bachelors as founding members.

**Scientist Peers Into Sardine's Stomach****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

**HAIFA.** — An Israeli scientist has penetrated into the contents of the stomachs of sardines may prove a boon to fishermen seeking bigger catches.

**DR. BORUCH KOMAROVSKY**, a lecturer at the Technion, made the survey on behalf of the local Fisheries Research Station. It has now been published by the General Fisheries Committee for the Mediterranean of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

According to Dr. Komarovsky, sardines live largely on certain types of plankton. Wherever this minute form of sea life abounds, sardines are sure to be in great quantity, he declares.

**Knesset Unit to Discuss Critical Arnon Report on K-F Vehicles**

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Over the votes of Mapai, the Knesset yesterday referred to the Economic Committee a motion for the agenda by Mr. Gershon Schocken (Progressive) calling for a debate on the Kaiser-Frazer report prepared by Mr. J. Arnon, Director of Technical Services in the Ministry of Labour. The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Pinhas Sapir, has opposed the motion.

Mr. Arnon charged that the report (which has not yet been made public) found serious defects in K-F vehicles used by the Government: the cars break down after a short time, bolts and handles fall off, the upholstery is poor, wheel rims collapse under crash, and the steering mechanism is defective, and moreover the ears are much more expensive than imported vehicles.

The question was not merely a technical one, Mr. Schocken said, noting that Mr. Sapir had appointed a committee of experts to study the findings of the Arnon report. The basic economic policy of the Government was in question.

The Kaiser-Frazer case was only an example of the dangers which follow when enterprises are foisted by the Government without sufficient study of whether they are really in a position to contribute to the economy.

**CITTEE SET UP**

Mr. Sapir did not reply directly to Mr. Schocken's charges. He said that a technical committee, headed by Mr. Aaron Gilat, Director of the Investment Centre, had been appointed to study the Arnon report.

With the approval of the State Controller, Mr. N. Amir, he forwarded copies to the State Controller as well as to the Ministers of Commerce and Industry, and Transport. The Minister of Transport, Mr. C. Carmi, demanded that an inquiry committee be appointed to investigate the performance of K-F vehicles run by other institutions, because the Arnon report was very critical.

The head of the Kaiser-Frazer authority, Mr. Y. Gilat (who is also Director of the Investment Centre in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry) has appointed a committee to study the matter.

The Committee's report is expected in a month.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Labour has received the State Controller's approval to distribute the Arnon report to Knesset Members.

**Water: State's Gravest Problem****Knesset Will Hold Debate****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Water supply is the most serious problem in the State at the present time, Agriculture Minister Kadish Lus told the Knesset yesterday. He was replying to motions for the agenda on the drought submitted by Mr. S. Shorash (Mapai) and Mr. Y. Sapir (General Zionists). With the approval of the Minister, the Government decided to hold a debate on the subject.

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**Nat'l Oil Co. to Float Bonds at Month's End****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

The National Oil Company will issue bonds before the end of this month, the Finance Ministry spokesman announced on Wednesday.

Mr. Schocken's motion for a debt ceiling was supported by all the Opposition parties and himself.

But a motion by Dr. Benjamin Avniel (Herut) that the question be referred to the Economic Committee passed by 80-26. It was supported by all parties except Mapai, and by Mr. David HaCohen (Mapai).

**Flaw in Quality of Instant Coffee****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

A hitch occurred recently in the production process of local instant coffee and as a result a quantity of coffee marketed had a poor taste, Commerce Minister Pinhas Sapir said yesterday.

The POST OFFICE will put two new postcard forms on sale next Wednesday — one stamped with 60 pruta for inland use and one of 120 pruta for delivery abroad.

It is also stopping the sale of stamps of the coin series (1950, '52 and '54) as of January 30.

**IMMIGRATION LOAN BONDS**

available at all local committees for the "Immigration Loan," economic and professional organization centres.

**Much Higher Water Rates For More Than 'Normal' Use****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Consumers who use more than a certain basic minimum amount of water will soon have to pay a much higher price. The Ministry of Interior has begun calculating the "minimum normal" water requirements of consumers as a first step in introducing the drastically revised water rates approved by the Ministers of Interior and Agriculture.

This was contained in an official circular issued on Wednesday, summing up the debate on the subject.

**House Airs Sabbath Traffic in Motzkin**

**Jerusalem Post Reporter**

Police Minister Behar Shavit told the Knesset yesterday that he did not know what the recommendations of the police in the police station in Motzkin had taken.

He was replying to motions for the agenda on the behaviour of demonstrators in the police station in a police van, thus compelling them to violate the Sabbath.

He was replying to a motion for the agenda by Mr. Moshe Kelmer (National Religious), calling for a debate on the behaviour of police.

The report urges that top priority be given to the Dan Area in general and Tel Aviv-Yafo in particular in carrying out the reform.

**WANTS OVERHAUL**

**Councillor A. Levitan (Ahud Ha'Avoda)**

called for an overhaul of the rates system, whereby the rates would be linked to income. He claimed that in its present form, the budget was "illegal," because the Mayor had deliberately refused to provide details on expenditures.

**CLOSED BUDGET**

**Dr. S. Shabtai (Mapai)**

urged that the budget be closed to prevent the accumulation of deficits.

**REHOVOT Rates Will Not Go Up**

**REHOVOT**

Rates will not go up in this town, the Mayor said on Wednesday, when he tabled a IL.24m. draft budget for the 1959/60 fiscal year in the Town Council.

The new estimate is IL.30,000 more than the present one.

The increase in income will result from a more efficient collection of rates, from a larger population, from a greater revenue from licences.

**NURI SAID.** — Iraqi Premier Nuri es-Said, murdered during the revolt last July, left England valued at £23,218. It was revealed on Wednesday.

**Buries Cash, Won't Say Where**

**Jerusalem Municipal Workers**

workers clearing an overgrown lot in the centre of town on Wednesday morning stopped in amazement as a man of middle age appeared and hysterically accused them of stealing his money.

The disturbance he created was so great that police were called but still no explanation was forthcoming. Finally, one of the workers handed the man a spade. He crossed to a corner of the lot — near Beni Ha'am on Jaffa Road — and to the astonishment of onlookers dug

**TA Council Passes Budgets for 59/60****Jerusalem Post Reporter**

TEL AVIV. — The Municipal Council on Wednesday night approved by 27 to 14, the 1959/60 Regular Budget for 1959/60 and the Development Budget IL.14.6m. The Planning Councillor, Mr. S. Goldstein, voted with the Coalition.

After Mr. Levanon summed up the debate, the voting was interrupted by the Opposition. They refused to remain in the hall while Councillor Goldstein presented a number of resolutions that included a call on the Government to invest IL.5m. grant to the city, and for a special IL.10m. bond issue for development.

Mapai Councillors stayed out of the hall, but returned for the final vote on the budget.

Earlier, Mr. E. Schechter (Mapai) and Leader of the Opposition, Mr. H. Levy, claimed that the budget was to be returned to the committee.

Mr. Goldstein claimed that the Mayor had refused to return the budget to the committee.

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away money in other places in the capital but refused to say where or how much.

**Infant**

## THE JERUSALEM POST

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8 Shevat, 5719, 6 Nisan, 1959

**O**f the two missiles launched by Russia at the start of the New Year, the intercontinental "Mr. Mikoyan" is almost certainly the greater influence on the affairs of mankind. Both have impressed the Americans. But the cosmic "Lunik," now zooming among frigid stellar bodies, was a remote, top-secret achievement of Soviet science, nothing like the joint Russo-American venture which sent the Soviet Deputy Premier circulating on a coast-to-coast U.S. tour.

Whatever the specific purpose of Mr. Mikoyan's mission—an eventual Eisenhower-Khrushchev meeting, summit talks, or the relaxation of gathering tension over Berlin—his very presence in America has achieved one of the Soviet Union's long-sought aims. It has always been Moscow's contention, bordering on an obsession, that direct top-level contact between the U.S. and Russia was worth any number of summit meetings. The Kremlin has never ceased prodding this view and, perhaps because it has in the past found the summit so bare, the U.S. has now agreed to give it a cautious try. Cautionous it has certainly been, for Mr. Mikoyan's arrival has been presented by both sides as a private visit to his old friend, Mr. Menahikov, the Soviet Ambassador in Washington.

The entire pattern of the Soviet Deputy Premier's sojourn indicates that the Administration was unwilling to attribute any real significance to Mr. Mikoyan's visit until it had a chance to probe public opinion on the score. Except for a brief call on Mr. Dulles—a diplomatic courtesy prescribed by protocol—Mr. Mikoyan has as yet had no contact with American officials. His meeting with President Eisenhower was only officially confirmed, and the date set, after he had visited several key cities where he met and spoke to Americans in all walks of life. In fact, his timetable seems to indicate that had the Soviet statesman not made such a generally favourable impression on the American press and people alike, the Administration might not have been inclined to disregard the angry demonstrations organized against the Deputy Premier by East European refugees in several cities, and a way might have been found to avoid the interview with Mr. Eisenhower now scheduled for Saturday.

It has been made abundantly clear that in conferring with Mr. Mikoyan, the American Government is banking on bilateral talks with the Kremlin. America's allies are being informed every inch of the way, and the British Foreign Office has been at pains to confirm this on two separate occasions since Mr. Mikoyan's arrival in the U.S. Now, however, the two countries, as between the U.S. and any other government, undoubtedly could lay the groundwork for better understanding and a lessening of mutual suspicion. The prerequisite, however, is not that these contacts should not be aimed, but that there should be no attempt to abuse them by seeking and offering advantages at the expense of other nations.

The American Administration is fully aware of this pitfall, and of the ever-present danger that through no intention or initiative of its own, it could be made to appear a false light. The danger is real, for the ways of Soviet diplomacy, which confidently assumes unquestioning compliance with its every decision by the entire Soviet bloc, could easily—perhaps even unintentionally—convince parties in negotiations who must consider the various and varying, though not necessarily conflicting, national interests of governments comprising a free and voluntary alliance.

In all fairness, Mr. Mikoyan has made a good start. On the other hand, what he has been saying in America are not the things the Soviet press, and Soviet diplomats at international forums are wont to say about America. His visit has been, as it was meant to be, a scintillating publicity campaign for a performance which has yet to be seen.

## Mapai Veterans Won First Round

Younger Generation Failed to Move into Office

By LEA BEN DOB

FROM time to time there is a flare-up in Mapai over a largely anonymous "young generation." Then it dies down again. There has been another of these just recently, which ended in a reception of open public argument between Abuf Moshe Dayan, former Chief of Staff, and no great respecter of accepted personalities or ideas, and Mr. Pinhas Lavon, sharp-minded and sharp-tongued Secretary-General of the Histadrut. The shouting match was a good deal of satisfaction to opponents of Mapai: one commentator, in mock naïveté, wrote that if he accepted, as he felt he must, what both these honourable gentlemen said of each other, then it would be hard to beat out the worst of what other people had been saying of this old warhorse of a party, Mapai.

There was a time, five or six years ago, when Mr. Ben-Gurion seemed anxious to free himself of the burdens day-by-day leaving him and his up by immuring himself at Sde Boker for a period—an idea produced, it is said, by one of the "young men." Mr. Ben-Gurion apparently felt that he might be forced to give up work, and wanted others to take over full responsibility while in the case of emergency. If this was the chance for the younger generation, they failed to snatch it, though at that time some elementary feelings were put out for cooperation between the group, which also included some members of Adut Ha'avoda.

### Retained Posts

Abuf Dayan remained in the Army, and continued to win the Sinai Campaign. Mr. Shimon Peres remained in the Ministry of Defence, eliminating arms purchase arrangements without which that campaign could not have been fought. Dr. Yigael Yadin, another former Chief of Staff, remained at Hatzor, despite constant pressure to return to public service. Aluf Aharon Remez, another member of the group actually left the Knesset to join the Koor management and after last year's Soleil Bonch show-up, accepted the post of administrator of the Weizmann Institute. Mr. Yigael Alon, the former Palmach commander, remained in the Knesset, where he represents Adut Ha'avoda.

To some extent, his influence with the younger section of his party has been on the wane since he has been "in power." In view of the "putch" canard that was made so much of during the past two weeks it is of interest to recall a warning which Dayan, always one of the most prominent members of the group, gave his friends while Mr. Ben-Gurion was still at Sde Boker. He said at that time that if they ever hoped to take a leading part in national affairs, they would have to leave their work in the Government, the Army or their kibbutzim and seek elsewhere.

"Even if you are a Director-General of a Ministry, you are only an employee carrying out the orders of the ministers who reach the Cabinet through election," he pointed out.

"You can't ever make political enemies in Government or in the Army, or even be certain that you will not be

### AT THE CINEMA

#### Grim Polish War Film

Kanal (Trafic, Tel Aviv) is a Polish film which was awarded a Gold Medal at last year's Cannes Film Festival. Directed by Andrzej Wajda, considered one of the young hopefuls of the film industry in Poland, it is a war picture without heroes and without bombast.

The time is the end of 1944 when the German army had reduced Warsaw to a heap of rubble and practically decimated its population.

THE m.v. Ashdod, Zim's newest freighter, built in Germany and acquired through the Reparations Corporation,

## KNESSET CORRESPONDENT



By arrangement with "Ma'ariv"

## Refugees as Term for Peace

Al Hanadash (Mapai)

said that we cannot dodge the party in the eyes of the public; such mistakes as there are must be rectified from within, without all this fanfare.

Not long before the party had come to such clear conclusions the emergency which Mr. Ben-Gurion had foreseen from his sheep-pound in the Negev duty arose as a result of the resignation of Mr. Lavon as Minister of Defence. A few months later Mr. Ben-Gurion returned to office after the 1955 elections. Since then his health has greatly improved, he has held the portfolio of Defence as well as that of the Prime Minister for years, treats many aspects of Foreign Affairs as part of the Defence committee, and does not hesitate to hold a dozen other portfolios temporarily if any of his Ministers resign. If there had at one time been a question of who would succeed Mr. Ben-Gurion as spokesman for Mapai and the nation, the question has recurred for the last two years.

At the first challenge, "Young Men" had no occasion to beat themselves, and as a result four years later the group still has no operational coherence, and has failed completely to develop a "political machine" to further its ends. This is a fact becoming clearer at the recent internal Mapai elections, when Aluf Dayan, despite his popularity, found he could not get himself nominated for a Tel Aviv Mapai district, and where one or two others belonging to the group failed to achieve election on Trades Union lists, though several of them succeeded in the local branch lists.

The veterans had scored in the first round.

(This is the last of two articles.)

him to stop spitting venom at the West. London has begun to realize, in view of the need to accept a limited number of refugees, although this should be done within the general framework of the new settlement; it is a moral and humane duty as well as a political necessity.

Hertzl attacks the Labour leadership of this country for ruining Israel's political prospects and points to the imminent loss of the Gaza strip in view of Nasser's Egyptian attack.

General (Histadrut) pours a cold shower on the Israeli enthusiasm that attended Fanfan's bold statement to the effect that the Soviet Union—

which was largely a scarcely disguised campaign against the Jews—were deported to the western regions—but not to Birobidjan. And in Birobidjan itself there were innumerable arrests. The main charge to begin with was, as far as possible, espionage—but this time on behalf of the Americans. In addition there was a very revealing charge: "artificially implanting Jewish entities in a region not previously Jewish."

These little renascences did not last long. In the closing days of 1958 there was a new assault, part of the greatest assault on "cosmopolitanism" all over the Soviet Union—which was largely a scarcely disguised campaign against the Jews. Jews were deported to the western regions—but not to Birobidjan. And in Birobidjan, as far as possible, espionage—but this time on behalf of the Americans. In addition there was a very revealing charge: "artificially implanting Jewish entities in a region not previously Jewish."

There the matter rested until the other day. And, meanwhile, Moscow had seen to it that nowhere else in Russia was any Jewish racial consciousness allowed to find expression. The Jewish theatres were closed and Yiddish literature found no publishers. Today, as far as is known, the population of Birobidjan scarcely exceeds 30,000—or about one in 20 of the total population—which is a mixture of Russian and Ukrainian settlers with others added. It is one in a hundred of the estimated surviving Jewish population of the USSR, now given as 3,000,000.

Authority in general, and authority in particular, is sensitive to a degree about this fractious but stubborn population, which has all sorts of uncontrollable connections with the outside world. It is common belief in the West that Moscow's violent hostility to Israel is nothing more than a part of the campaign to win the Arabs. But I think it goes deeper than that. To have their midst individuals or groups who look beyond the horizon of the materialist State and who possess kindred spirits all over the Western world is a situation, uneasy and incalculable, which the Russian leadership finds intolerable.

Attacks on Israel

The attacks on Israel for internal Soviet consumption have in recent months been extremely violent, and, as far as the Arabs are concerned, nothing like suppression. Few Arabs read "Vechernaya Moskva," and very few, I should say, read "Literaturnaya Gazeta." But Russians do.

## Birobidjan May Again Be Threat to Russia's Jews

By EDWARD CRANSHAW

OFNB—

ONE of the saddest stories of Stalin's Russia was the birth and virtual extinction of Birobidjan, the so-called Jewish Autonomous Region in the Soviet Far East. Everyone interested thought the last had been heard of this but it was later learned that there was a strong belief in Poland and elsewhere that at the 21st Party Congress, which opens in Moscow on Sunday, the resurrection of Birobidjan will be an item on the agenda. Certainly the place is in the news again. In a number of meetings Birobidjan has been held up as a counter-attraction to Israel.

If Mr. Khrushchev, or anybody else, does in fact raise this matter it will be as well as for all to remember what Birobidjan has stood for in the past, and the horror which its very name holds for all Soviet Jews.

The real centre of Soviet Jewry, where, in 1941, the Germans conducted their惨无人道的 arrests, was in the extreme west of European Russia—in Byelorussia and the Western Ukraine. Birobidjan is as far from this comparatively compact centre as possible. It is a tributary of the Amur River close to the Manchurian border, and one of the last stations on the Trans-Siberian Railway before Khabarovsk and Vladivostok.

National Home

It was here, just 30 years ago, that Stalin decided to create a national home for Jews. Some Jews were settled there forcibly; others, who lost their means of livelihood after the New Economic Planning period, made their way there of their own accord; a few went with starry eyes. But in spite of a great deal of idyllic-sounding propaganda, the great body of Russian Jews preferred to stay where they were, maintaining their close contacts with the civilization of the West. And, until the Germans came, they could have been judged wise.

These settlers of Birobidjan had a rough time because, dumped in a wild West pioneer area, which the Germans (the Tatars before Stalin) had tried in vain to settle for decades, they found themselves cut off entirely from the civilised world, short of all amenities, and faced with the task of building up a new society in tough conditions from scratch. Then just when they were beginning to get going came the great pest. In fact practically all their leaders were liquidated, together with all those Jewish immigrants who had innocently come from abroad: they were accused of spying for the Japanese.

For a long time nothing much was heard of the once-nomadic Jewish Region—not until after Captain Michael Ron-Eli and his crew brought Zim's freighter to 20 vessels, totalling 187,000 tons.

Unfortunately, this basically-looking name is not quite as harmless as it looks. Reports have been published in the international medical press on what is professionally called the "hula-hoop Syndrome."

Its symptoms are described as follows:

"...at the side of the neck producing torticollis; pain in upper abdomen; reduced movements of the cervical spine; spasms and tenderness of certain muscles; etc." In one reported case, signs and symptoms were such as to simulate pneumonia.

The child was admitted to hospital where, of course, the false diagnosis was revealed. It is sufficient to imagine the shock to the child and its family: this is not the place to go into medical details.

I have considered it my duty to draw these facts to the attention of our medical authorities, doctors, teachers, parents, etc. The public is referred to two recent reports in the British Medical Journal, December 20, 1958, p. 1581.

Yours etc.

DR. HENRY UNNA

Poole, Dorset, January 3.

COLLECTION

In the article "Fighter for India" (see "Israel's Birobidjan" on this page yesterday), Dr. Taraknath Das' name was inadvertently printed incorrectly.

PEN FRIENDS

MARYKEEN BALFE, 204, 2nd Queen's Way, Raynes Park, London, W.12. Marykeen, a schoolgirl who would like to have an Israel girl age as a correspondent. Has hobbies not sports, reading, music and collecting.

ETTY ASH, 11, 10 Edith Road, Bell Green, Coventry, Warwickshire, England, would like to have a pen pal in Israel. She attends Coventry College for Girls.

JOY GINS, 24, 227 Second Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, U.S.A., would like to have a pen pal in Israel. His hobbies are stamp collecting and music.

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